

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 21

Honoring Shirley Chisholm for her service to the Nation and expressing
condolences to her family, friends, and supporters on her death.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2005

Mrs. JONES of Ohio (for herself, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WATT, Ms. LEE, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. OWENS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

RESOLUTION

Honoring Shirley Chisholm for her service to the Nation
and expressing condolences to her family, friends, and
supporters on her death.

Whereas Shirley Chisholm was born Shirley Anita St. Hill on
November 30, 1924, in Brooklyn, New York, to Charles
and Ruby St. Hill, immigrants from British Guyana and
Barbados;

Whereas in 1949, Shirley Chisholm was a founding member
of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Political League;

Whereas in 1960, she started the Unity Democratic Club,
which was instrumental in mobilizing black and Hispanic
voters;

Whereas in 1964, Chisholm ran for a New York State assembly seat and won;

Whereas in 1968, Chisholm became the first African American woman elected to Congress, representing New York's Twelfth Congressional District;

Whereas as a member of Congress, Chisholm hired a staff of all women, was an advocate for civil rights, women's rights, and the poor, and spoke out against the Vietnam War;

Whereas Shirley Chisholm cofounded the National Organization for Women;

Whereas she remained an outspoken advocate of women's rights throughout her career, saying, "Women in this country must become revolutionaries. We must refuse to accept the old, the traditional roles and stereotypes";

Whereas in 1969, Shirley Chisholm, along with other African American members of Congress, founded the Congressional Black Caucus;

Whereas on January 25, 1972, Chisholm announced her candidacy for president and became the first African American to be considered for the presidential nomination of either the Democratic or Republican party;

Whereas although Chisholm did not win the nomination at the 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami, she received the votes of 151 delegates;

Whereas Shirley Chisholm served 7 terms in the House of Representatives before retiring from politics in 1982;

Whereas Shirley Chisholm was a dedicated member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and received the sorority's highest award, the Mary Church Terrell Award, in 1977 for her

political activism and contributions to the Civil Rights Movement;

Whereas Shirley Chisholm was a model public servant and an example for African American women, and her strength and perseverance serve as an inspiration for all people striving for change; and

Whereas on January 1, 2005, Shirley Chisholm died at the age of 80: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) honors Shirley Chisholm for her service to
3 the Nation, her work to improve the lives of women
4 and minorities, her steadfast commitment to dem-
5 onstrating the power of compassion, and her dedica-
6 tion to justice and equality; and

7 (2) expresses its deepest condolences to her
8 family, friends, and supporters.

○